

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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73

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 IO-12

OIC-04 EB-11 AID-20 OMB-01 RSR-01 /131 W

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R 272000 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9210

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 1402

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, US, CU, GT

SUBJ: OASGA - CONSULTATIONS ON CUBA

REF: STATE 052777

1. I HAVE JUST COME FROM MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ARENALES IN WHICH I DISCUSSED CUBAN ISSUE ALONG LINES REFTEL.

2. HE STARTED HIS REPLY BY SAYING THAT HE UNDERSTOOD FROM CONFIDENTIAL SOURCES THAT DURING PAST COUPLE OF DAYS PRESIDENT SOMOZA HAD SPOKEN BY TELEPHONE TO PRESIDENT MOLINA ABOUT CUBAN PROBLEM AND MOLINA HAD IN TURN CALLED PRESIDENT ARANA. ARENALES CLAIMED IGNORANCE OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE CONVERSATION BUT ATTRIBUTED CALLS TO "UNCLE SAM BESTIRRING HIMSELF" WHICH HE ENTHUSIASTICALLY WELCOMED. HE THEN LAUNCHED INTO HIS USUAL PERORATION ABOUT THE U. S. LOSING INFLUENCE IN LATIN AMERICA (NOW HIGHLIGHTED, ACCORDING TO ARENALES, BY THE UNSC MEETING IN PANAMA) AND THE NEED FOR THE USG ONCE AGAIN TO DEMONSTRATE
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ITS DIPLOMATIC AND POLITICAL "MACHISMO".

3. WHEN I BROUGHT THE DISCUSSION BACK TO CUBA AND THE FORTHCOMING OAS/ GA, ARENALES SAID THE FOLLOWING:

A. BECAUSE GUATEMALA IS HIGHLY VULNERABLE TO ATTACK ON BAY OF PIGS ISSUE HE COULD NOT AFFORD TO TAKE LEAD IN DEBATE BY POINTING TO CUBAN INTERVENTIONIST ACTIVITIES IN GUATEMALA. AT RESREP SHOULD BE KEPT INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS. IN OTHER WORDS HIS VIEWS ARE IN LINE WITH THOSE EXPRESSED BY GHAS (REF B), ALTHOUGH HE WOULD PREFER THAT IN MATTERS OF COMMUNICATIONS WITH RGA FORMAL SIGNING AUTHORITY SHOULD REST WITH UNFDAC PROGRAM MANAGER. HOWEVER, SAYS HE BELIEVES IT DESIRABLE DEFER REACHING TOO FIRM VIEWS ON MODALITIES OF RELATIONSHIP WITH UNDP PENDING HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH RGA AND UNDP. STRESSES THAT ABOVE ALL HE WANTS TO AVOID FRICTION BETWEEN UNFDAC AND RESREP AND THEREFORE HIS AIM WILL BE TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO PROMOTE CONSENSUS ON THIS MATTER.

4. SCHURMANN ALSO REPORTS HE HAD LONG TALK WITH SOVIET CHARGE MOLTHANOV ABOUT AFGHAN PROGRAM AND INVITED SOVIET PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATIVE GROUP. SAID CHARGE' S REACTION WAS TYPICAL GUARDED RESPONSE TO EFFECT WOULD REPORT MOSCOW AND LET SCHURMANN KNOW POSITION. RIMESTAD

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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